



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Internet: <https://www.fcc.gov>  
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 21-653

Released: June 4, 2021

## 2021-2022 ALLOCATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEAF-BLIND EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

### CG Docket No. 10-210

Under the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), also called “iCanConnect,” the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) may provide up to \$10 million annually from the interstate telecommunications relay service fund (TRS Fund) to support local programs that distribute equipment to eligible low-income individuals who are deafblind, so that these individuals can access telecommunications service, Internet access service, and advanced communications services.<sup>1</sup> By this notice, the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) announces the funding allocations for the NDBEDP for 2021-2022.<sup>2</sup>

As directed by the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, for 2021-2022, CGB will set aside \$250,000 for national outreach efforts to be conducted by the Perkins School for the Blind.<sup>3</sup> In addition, pursuant to that order, CGB will set aside \$700,005 towards the development of a centralized database that certified programs will be required to use to submit information about their NDBEDP-related activities for reporting purposes and may use for the generation of reimbursement claims.<sup>4</sup>

The remaining \$9,049,995 of funding for 2021-2022 will be used to reimburse certified programs for the cost of equipment and authorized related services, up to each certified program’s funding allocation.<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, initial funding allocations for 2021-2022 are calculated by providing a minimum base amount of \$50,000 for each jurisdiction plus a portion of the remaining available funding in an amount proportionate to the population of that jurisdiction.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 620; *see also* 47 CFR §§ 64.6201-64.6219; *Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind Individuals*, Report and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 9178 (2016) (*NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*).

<sup>2</sup> The fund year for the NDBEDP runs from July 1 through June 30 of the following year, which coincides with the TRS Fund year. *See generally* 47 CFR § 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(H).

<sup>3</sup> *See NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9236-37, 9242, paras. 135, 149.

<sup>4</sup> *See id.* at 9242, 9250-51, paras. 149, 169 (authorizing CGB to allocate an amount necessary from the \$10 million available annually from the TRS Fund for the NDBEDP for the development and maintenance of the centralized database). During 2021-2022, CGB and the NDBEDP Administrator will continue to coordinate with the FCC’s Office of Managing Director and Chief Information Officer, as well as with NDBEDP certified programs that will use or access the database, as appropriate, to identify the data elements, structure of the database, and other implementation details in accordance with the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*. *See id.* at 9250-51, 9264-65, paras. 169, 202. CGB may reallocate to certified programs all or part of the funds set aside for this purpose if it determines that they will not be used during 2021-2022. *See* 47 CFR § 64.6205 (directing CGB to designate an NDBEDP Administrator to determine annual funding allocations and reallocations).

<sup>5</sup> *See* 47 CFR § 64.6213.

<sup>6</sup> *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9242, para. 149.

CGB reminds certified entities that the below amounts are intended to serve as initial allocations only. To maximize available funds under the NDBEDP, CGB may make (1) voluntary reallocations between certified programs at any time during the TRS Fund year and (2) involuntary reallocations when individual program performance indicates that NDBEDP funds could be more fully utilized by other certified programs.<sup>7</sup>

The initial allocations for the 56 covered jurisdictions are as follows:<sup>8</sup>

<b>State</b>	<b>NDBEDP Certified Program</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Alabama	Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind	\$142,357
Alaska	Assistive Technology of Alaska	\$63,780
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind	\$187,103
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$106,844
California	Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$794,259
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind	\$158,473
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project	\$117,156
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center for Disabilities Studies	\$68,342
Florida	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$454,558
Georgia	Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$249,992
Hawaii	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$76,670
Idaho	University of Idaho – Center on Disabilities and Human Development	\$83,661
Illinois	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center (Chicago Hearing Society)	\$288,688
Indiana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$176,809
Iowa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$109,429

<sup>7</sup> *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9244, para. 153.

<sup>8</sup> Population figures for these calculations are derived from U.S. Census data. See U.S. Census Bureau, National Population Totals: 2010-2020, <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2010-2020/national/totals/nst-est2020.xlsx> (Apr. 30, 2021); U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Resident Population for the 50 States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: 2021, [2020 Resident Population for the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/2020-resident-population) (Apr. 27, 2021); U.S. Census Bureau, Understanding the Population of Guam: 2019, [https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/2020/sis\\_2020map\\_guam\\_k-12.pdf](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/2020/sis_2020map_guam_k-12.pdf) (Dec. 12, 2019); U.S. Census Bureau, Understanding the Population of American Samoa: 2019, [Understanding the Population of American Samoa \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/2020/sis_2020map_samoa_k-12.pdf) (Dec. 17, 2019); U.S. Census Bureau, Population of the Northern Mariana Islands: 2019, [Understanding the Population of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/2020/sis_2020map_nmi_k-12.pdf) (Dec. 18, 2019); U.S. Census Bureau, Understanding the Population of the U.S. Virgin Islands: 2019, [Understanding the Population of the U.S. Virgin Islands \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/2020/sis_2020map_virgin_islands_k-12.pdf) (Dec. 12, 2019).

<b>State</b>	<b>NDBEDP Certified Program</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans	\$104,876
Kentucky	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$134,154
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center	\$137,565
Maine	Disability Rights Maine	\$75,320
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind	\$163,877
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind	\$179,828
Michigan	Perkins School for the Blind	\$238,114
Minnesota	Perkins School for the Blind	\$156,229
Mississippi	Perkins School for the Blind	\$106,059
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology	\$165,606
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$70,132
Nebraska	Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership	\$86,437
Nevada	Perkins School for the Blind	\$108,018
New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.	\$75,612
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$217,306
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$89,496
New York	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$416,430
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing	\$247,555
North Dakota	North Dakota Assistive	\$64,354
Ohio	Perkins School for the Blind	\$270,178
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	\$124,534
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.	\$129,446
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University	\$291,140
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind	\$69,954
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind	\$146,982
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services	\$66,664
Tennessee	Tennessee Public Utility Commission	\$178,635
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$596,171

<b>State</b>	<b>NDBEDP Certified Program</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Utah	Perkins School for the Blind	\$110,388
Vermont	Perkins School for the Blind	\$61,754
Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$210,776
Washington	Perkins School for the Blind	\$193,435
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$83,757
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources	\$159,672
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming	\$60,902
<b>Other Jurisdictions</b>	<b>NDBEDP Certified Program</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
District of Columbia	Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind	\$63,294
American Samoa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$51,046
Guam	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$53,002
Northern Mariana Islands	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$51,015
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$110,157
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind	\$52,004
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$9,049,995</b>
	National Outreach	\$250,000
	Centralized Database	\$700,005
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

**ACCESSIBLE FORMATS:** To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Contact Jackie Ellington, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, at 202-418-1153 or [Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov](mailto:Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov).

-FCC